

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 00911 241424Z

47

ACTION CPR-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 L-01 A-01 RSC-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 /030 W

----- 025650

R 232011Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7401

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 0911

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AWRD, VE

SUBJECT: VENEZUELA'S HIGHEST DECORATION FOR DEPARTING U.S.
AMBASSADOR

REF: STATE A-5746 OF JULY 19, 1974

1. YESTERDAY FONMIN SCHACHT TELEPHONED TO SAY THAT PRESIDENT PEREZ HAD ASKED HIM TO INFORM ME THAT THE PRESIDENT PERSONALLY WISHED TO CONFER ON ME VENEZUELA'S HIGHEST DECORATION, THE ORDER OF THE LIBERATOR, UPON THE TERMINATION OF MY TOUR OF DUTY IN VENEZUELA. IN ADDITION, THE PRESIDENT DESIRED TO GIVE A BANQUET IN MY HONOR FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY.

2. WITH REGARD TO REF AIRGRAM, I LATER CALLED FONMIN SCHACHT AND ASKED IF HE COULD GIVE ME ADRAFT OF WHATEVER CITATION MIGHT BE MADE ON THIS OCCASION IN ORDER THAT THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT DECIDE TO PERMIT ME TO ACCEPT THE AWARD. SCHACHT THEREUPON SENT ME A DRAFT OF THE LETTER HE PROPOSES TO SEND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE ORDER OF THE LIBERATOR IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

QUOTE: I HAVE GREAT PLEASURE IN REQUESTING THE COUNCIL OF THE "ORDER OF THE LIBERATOR" UNDER YOUR WORTHY CHARGE TO GIVE A FAVORABLE VOTE IN ORDER THAT THE DECORATION OF THE ORDER IN THE CORRESPONDING GRADE BE GRANTED TO HIS EXCELLENCY ROBERT MCCLINTOCK,

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 00911 241424Z

AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN VENEZUELA, WHO IS TERMINATING
HIS MISSION. HE PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS 7 JULY 1970.
UNQUOTE

3. IT IS CUSTOMARY THAT WHEN DECORATIONS ARE CONFERRED ON DEPARTING
AMBASSADORS, THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL READS A VERY BRIEF CITATION
WHICH IN EFFECT IS A DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC GRANTING
THE AWARD. THERE THEN FOLLOWS A SPEECH BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER
AND AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE AMBASSADOR UPON WHOM THE AWARD
HAS BEEN CONFERRED. WHAT MAKES THE PRESENT DECISION OF THE
VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE FACT THAT HE
PRESIDENT HIMSELF WILL CONFER THE AWARD.

4. IN VIEW OF THIS LATTER EXCEPTIONAL CONSIDERATION (THIS IS THE
FIRST TIME IN MY FOUR AND A HALF YEARS IN VENEZUELA THAT A PRESIDENT
HAS OFFICIATED AT SUCH A CEREMONY), IT WOULD BE MOST
EMBARRASSING IF I SHOULD BE ORDERED TO DECLINE ACCEPTANCE OF
VENEZUELA'S HIGHEST DECORATION. PRESIDENT PEREZ WOULD NOT ONLY
CONSIDER IT A PERSONAL AFFRONT BUT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY READ INTO
A NEGATIVE DECISION IMPLICATIONS ON POLICY WHICH WE MIGHT NOT
INTEND.

6. I THEREFORE REQUEST OF THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL THAT INSTRUCTIONS
BE ISSUED PERMITTING ME TO ACCEPT AND RETAIN THE AWARD.
MCCLINTOCK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CARACA00911
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750027-0754
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750127/aaaaaxyi.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CPR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE A-5746, 75 OF JULY 19, 75 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VENEZUELA'S HIGHEST DECORATION FOR DEPARTING U.S. AMBASSADOR
TAGS: AWRD, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006